

CLAIMS

The invention claimed is:

1. A fusible electric slide switch, comprising:

a) a base;

b) a fuse carrier; and

c) a cover;

wherein said fuse carrier is slidably mounted to said base; and

wherein said cover maintains said fuse carrier slidably mounted to said base.

2. The switch as defined in claim 1, wherein said base has a back portion; and

wherein said base has a top portion.

3. The switch as defined in claim 2, wherein said back portion of said base has an uppermost edge;

wherein said back portion of said base has a forwardmost surface; and

wherein said back portion of said base has a lowermost edge.

4. The switch as defined in claim 3, wherein said top portion of said base has a lowermost surface; and

wherein said top portion of said base extends forwardly from said uppermost edge of said back portion of said base so as to be generally inverted L-shaped in lateral cross section.

5. The switch as defined in claim 4, wherein said base has a plurality of electrical terminals;

1 wherein said plurality of electrical terminals of said base are  
2 disposed on said forwardmost surface of said back portion of said  
3 base; and  
4 wherein said plurality of electrical terminals of said base are  
5 disposed adjacent said lowermost edge of said back portion of said  
6 base.

7 6. The switch as defined in claim 5, wherein said base has a plurality  
8 of electrical lands;  
9 wherein said plurality of electrical lands of said base have a  
10 plurality of electrodes, respectively;  
11 wherein said plurality of electrical lands of said base are disposed  
12 on said forwardmost surface of said back portion of said base; and  
13 wherein said plurality of electrical lands of said base electrically  
14 communicate with said plurality of electrical terminals of said  
15 base, respectively.

16 7. The switch as defined in claim 6, wherein said base has a pair of  
17 plates;  
18 wherein said pair of plates of said base are disposed on said  
19 forwardmost surface of said back portion of said base;  
20 wherein said pair of plates of said base cover said plurality of  
21 electrical lands of said base, except for said plurality of  
22 electrodes of said plurality of electrical lands of said base; and  
23 wherein one plate of said base has a blind bore.

24 8. The switch as defined in claim 7, wherein said base has a plunger  
25 assembly;  
26 wherein said plunger assembly of said base comprises said lowermost  
27 surface of said top portion of said base having a blind bore;  
28 wherein said plunger assembly of said base comprises a plunger;

1 wherein said plunger of said plunger assembly of said fuse carrier  
2 is disposed in said blind bore in said lowermost surface of said top  
3 portion of said base; and  
4 wherein said plunger of said plunger assembly of said fuse carrier  
5 is biased outwardly from said blind bore in said lowermost surface  
6 of said top portion of said base by a spring.

7 9. The switch as defined in claim 8, wherein said fuse carrier has a  
8 forwardmost surface;  
9 wherein said fuse carrier has a rearwardmost surface;  
10 wherein said fuse carrier has a pair of sidewardmost surfaces; and  
11 wherein said fuse carrier has an uppermost surface.

12 10. The switch as defined in claim 9, wherein said rearwardmost surface  
13 of said fuse carrier abuts against said pair of plates of said base  
14 and said uppermost surface of said fuse holder abuts against said  
15 lowermost surface of said top portion of said base as said fuse  
16 carrier selectively slides sidewardly relative to said base.

17 11. The switch as defined in claim 9, wherein said forwardmost surface  
18 of said fuse carrier has a pair of recesses; and  
19 wherein said pair of recesses in said forwardmost surface of said  
20 fuse carrier are for holding a pair of fuses, respectively.

21 12. The switch as defined in claim 11, wherein said pair of recesses in  
22 said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier are disposed adjacent  
23 said pair of sidewardmost surfaces of said fuse carrier,  
24 respectively.

25 13. The switch as defined in claim 11, wherein said fuse carrier has two  
26 pair of electrodes; and  
27 wherein said two pair of electrodes of said fuse carrier have tails.

- 1      14.    The switch as defined in claim 13, wherein each pair of electrodes  
2            of said fuse carrier are disposed in an associated recess in said  
3            forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier;  
4            wherein each pair of electrodes of said fuse carrier are for  
5            electrically communicating with an associated fuse;  
6            wherein said tails of said two pair of electrodes of said fuse  
7            carrier extend through said rearwardmost surface of said fuse  
8            carrier; and  
9            wherein said tails of said two pair of electrodes of said fuse  
10          carrier selectively electrically communicate with said plurality of  
11          electrodes of said base as said fuse carrier slides sidewardly  
12          relative to said base.
- 13      15.    The switch as defined in claim 11, wherein said fuse carrier has a  
14            handle;  
15            wherein said handle extends generally centrally through said fuse  
16            carrier;  
17            wherein said handle extends from said forwardmost surface of said  
18            fuse carrier to said rearwardmost surface of said fuse carrier; and  
19            wherein said handle of said fuse carrier moves with said fuse  
20            carrier.
- 21      16.    The switch as defined in claim 13, wherein said fuse carrier has a  
22            pair of jumper electrodes; and  
23            wherein said pair of jumper electrodes of said fuse carrier  
24            electrically connect associated ones of each pair of said two pair  
25            of electrodes of said fuse carrier with each other.
- 26      17.    The switch as defined in claim 9, wherein said fuse carrier has a  
27            plunger assembly;  
28            wherein said plunger assembly of said fuse carrier comprises said  
29            rearwardmost surface of said fuse carrier having a blind bore;

1 wherein said plunger assembly of said fuse carrier comprises a  
2 plunger;  
3 wherein said plunger of said fuse carrier is disposed in said blind  
4 bore in said rearwardmost surface of said fuse carrier;  
5 wherein said plunger of said fuse carrier is biased outwardly from  
6 said blind bore in said rearwardmost surface of said fuse carrier  
7 by a spring; and  
8 wherein said plunger of said plunger assembly of said fuse carrier  
9 enters said blind bore in said one plate of said base when said fuse  
10 carrier is in an on position.

11 18. The switch as defined in claim 9, wherein said fuse carrier has a  
12 stop assembly;  
13 wherein said stop assembly of said fuse carrier comprises said  
14 uppermost surface of said fuse carrier having a blind slot extending  
15 therealong;  
16 wherein said stop assembly of said fuse carrier comprises a pawl;  
17 wherein said pawl of said stop assembly of said fuse carrier is  
18 slidably mounted in said blind slot in said uppermost surface of  
19 said fuse carrier; and  
20 wherein said pawl of said stop assembly of said fuse carrier  
21 selectively cooperates with said plunger assembly of said base.

22 19. The switch as defined in claim 11, wherein said cover has a  
23 rearwardmost surface;  
24 wherein said cover captures said fuse carrier between itself and  
25 said base; and  
26 wherein said rearwardmost surface of said cover abuts said  
27 forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier as said fuse carrier  
28 selectively slides sidewardly relative to said base and said cover.

- 1     20.   The switch as defined in claim 15, wherein said cover has a pair of  
2           through slots;  
3           wherein said pair of through slots in said cover align with said  
4           pair of recesses in said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier  
5           when said fuse carrier is in an off position for allowing access to  
6           the fuses; and  
7           wherein said pair of through slots in said cover do not align with,  
8           so as to allow said cover to conceal, said pair of recesses in said  
9           forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier when said fuse carrier is  
10          in an on position for preventing contact with electrical components  
11          by a user.
- 12    21.   The switch as defined in claim 20, wherein said cover has a  
13          secondary through slot;  
14          wherein said secondary through slot in said cover extends sidewardly  
15          from one of said through slots in said cover;  
16          wherein said handle of said fuse carrier extend through said  
17          secondary through slot in said cover; and  
18          wherein said handle of said fuse carrier moves along said secondary  
19          through slot in said cover as said fuse carrier traverses on and off  
20          positions thereof.
- 21    22.   The switch as defined in claim 19, wherein said cover has two pair  
22          of spring contacts; and  
23          wherein said two pair of spring contacts of said cover are disposed  
24          on said rearwardmost surface of said cover.

1     23.    The switch as defined in claim 22, wherein each pair of said two  
2           pair of spring contacts of said cover align with an associated one  
3           of said pair of recesses in said forwardmost surface of said fuse  
4           carrier when said fuse carrier is in on position for applying a  
5           force to and maintain fuses in said pair of recesses in said  
6           forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier.